

REMARKS

The present invention relates to a shrinkage control material comprising a resilient metal wire and, on the metal wire, an adhesive layer having adhesion to elastomeric material and comprising a halogenated polymer-based or olefin-based adhesive. Also claimed is an elastomeric molding wherein the shrinkage control material is combined with an elastomeric extrusion, the elastomeric extrusion being located around an outer periphery of the shrinkage control material, the extrusion being bonded to the shrinkage control material by vulcanization.

The Examiner's comments presented under 35 U.S.C. § 112 have been addressed above. Applicant has amended Claim 1 to point out that the adhesive layer is located on the metal wire, and dependent claims have been presented to further describe a preferred embodiment wherein the adhesive layer is heat-treated. A heat-treated adhesive layer is a particular composition of matter, and is properly described in the dependent claims. "Heat-treated" describes a characteristic of the material, just as "being bonded by vulcanization" does, and such phrases are properly included in patent claims. Applicant is not claiming a process, but a product and, in certain places, describes certain aspects in terms of product-by-process language. This is entirely appropriate, as noted in MPEP ¶ 2173.05(p).

The rejection of the claims as anticipated by Takahashi and Wright is traversed.

The two references supplied as evidence of anticipation differ from the presently claimed invention in that they do not contain, rely on, or use, a *resilient metal wire*. Rather, Takahashi describes steel fibers for rubber reinforcement, not a resilient metal wire. A bundle of steel fibers, as disclosed in Takahashi, cannot function as a shrinkage control material, even if it is coated with an adhesive layer, because it does not have resiliency.

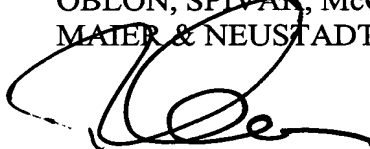
- independent use
- relative

Similarly, Wright does not disclose a resilient metal wire with an adhesive layer thereon. Instead, Wright only shows steel and brass-plated steel fibers. The Wright metal cords are composed of metal fibers, and cannot function as shrinkage control materials, even when so coated because they lack resiliency.

Clearly, neither Takahashi nor Wright anticipate the pending claims due to a lack of the presence of a resilient metal wire: they cannot provide a shrinkage control material or an elastomeric molding comprising a shrinkage control material. For these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that the presently pending claims, as amended, are allowable, and early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

--1. (Amended) A shrinkage control material comprising:

a resilient metal wire; and

relative

an adhesive layer [coated and heated] on the metal wire, the adhesive layer having

adhesion to elastomeric material, wherein the adhesive layer comprises a halogenated polymer-based or olefin-based adhesive.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Amended) The shrinkage control material as set forth in claim 1:

wherein the adhesive layer comprises a chlorinated rubber and a sulfonated polyethylene rubber.

4. (Amended) The shrinkage control material as set forth in claim 1:

wherein the metal wire [comprises one component] is selected from the group consisting of [from] brass, iron, iron alloy, steel, phosphor bronze and nickel silver.

6. (Amended) A elastomeric molding comprising:

a shrinkage control material having:

a resilient metal wire; and

an adhesive layer [coated and heated] on the metal wire, the adhesive layer having adhesion to elastomeric material; and

a elastomeric extrusion [formed] around an outer periphery of the shrinkage control material [to cover], the elastomeric extrusion being bonded by vulcanization to the shrinkage control material, wherein the adhesive layer comprises a halogenated polymer-based or olefin-based adhesive.

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Amended) The elastomeric molding as set forth in claim 6:

wherein the adhesive layer comprises a chlorinated rubber and a sulfonated polyethylene rubber.

9-19. (New).--